

Message Text

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APPROVED BY IO/TRC - WALKER DIAMANTI

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EB/TT/OA/AVP:JGRAVATT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, EAIR, ICAO

SUBJECT:BUDGET RESTRICTIONS IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
(ICAO)

REF: MONTREAL 1372 AND 1387

1. DRAFT ICAO TRIENNIAL BUDGET WILL REQUIRE MORE CAREFUL
STUDY AND CRITIQUE, BUT FOR THE SEPTEMBER 28 PRESENTATION
TO THE COUNCIL, DEPARTMENT REQUESTS US REP MAKE FOLLOWING
INITIAL OBSERVATIONS:

2. CONCERNING MEETINGS: WE CANNOT UNDERSTAND HOW THE
SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED MEETINGS, WHICH CONTAINS ONLY 3 MORE
MEETINGS THAN THE PRIOR TRIENNIUM (I.E., 2 MORE LIMITED
RAN, 1 MORE AN PANEL, 1 MORE AT PANEL AND 1 LESS WORKSHOP)
COULD COST 43 PERCENT MORE THAN PRIOR TRIENNIUM. EVEN
AFTER DEDUCTING THE 10 PERCENT FROM THE ESTIMATES, AS
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SUGGESTED BY SECGEN IN PARAGRAPH 1.10 ON PAGE 7, THE RECOM-

MENDED APPROPRIATION (DOLLARS 1,585,000) SEEMS UNREASONABLY HIGH.

3. CONCERNING CONTINGENCY FUND: WE DISLIKE CONTINGENCY FUNDS PER SE, SINCE USG HAS TO PAY INTEREST ON THE FUNDS IT BORROWS TO PAY INTO CONTINGENCY FUNDS AND BECAUSE THEY INCREASE OUR CONTRIBUTIONS. OVER AND ABOVE OUR AVERSION TO CONTINGENCY FUNDS IN GENERAL THE PROPOSED ESTIMATES FOR NEXT TRIENNium SEEM UNREASONABLY HIGH. DURING THE PRE-SENT TRIENNium NEARLY TWO-THIRDS OF THE CONTINGENCY FUND FOR 1975 (DOLLARS 800,000) WAS CARRIED OVER TO 1976. SUCH LOW LEVEL OF ACTUAL USE OF CONTINGENCY FUNDS ARGUES AGAINST ANY INCREASE. AS USDEL HAS POINTED OUT IN REFTTEL B, INCREASED COSTS HAVE BEEN PREDICATED IN OTHER PARTS OF THE BUDGET. US SHOULD STATE OBJECTION TO INCREASE IN CONTINGENCY FUNDS.

4. THE PROJECTED INCREASES ARE SUBSTANTIALLY HIGHER THAN THOSE CONTAINED IN OUR BUDGET PRESENTATIONS - AND SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER THAN THE LAST PREVIOUS ESTIMATES BY THE SECGEN. (FYI - WE HAVE JUST HAD DISCUSSIONS LAST WEEK WITH OMB ON BASIS OF ASSESSED BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR 1978 OF DOLLARS 15,670,000. WE WOULD HAVE GREAT DIFFICULTY GOING BACK TO TRY TO JUSTIFY INCREASES TO DOLLARS 17, 18 AND 19 MILLION FOR TRIENNium 78, 79, 80.)

5. WE NOTE WITH SATISFACTION THAT SECGEN HAS PREDICATED INCREASED STAFF SALARY DEDUCTIONS UNDER STAFF ASSESSMENT PLAN WHICH CORRESPOND WITH PROPOSED SALARY INCREASES. ALSO THAT HOST GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO RENTAL OF PREMISES IS SHOWN IN MISCELLANEOUS INCOME.

6. FURTHER COMMENTS AND GUIDANCE WILL FOLLOW BEFORE SEPTEMBER 28 COUNCIL MEETING. USDEL MAY USE ABOVE IN ANY INFORMAL CONVERSATIONS WITH SECGEN OR OTHER MAJOR DONOR DELEGATES. KISSINGER

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